In the claims:

Please make the following amendments to the claims:

Please cancel claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 17-20, 23-32, 34 and 50; however, Applicants retain all rights to subsequent patent applications which may form a part of divisional, continuation or continuation applications stemming from this application.

Please note that independent claim 17 has been cancelled and dependent claim 3 has been amended to become an independent claim. The independent and dependant claim count remains the same or less than that of the original application and therefore it is believed that no additional fees are due.

Please amend the following claims as indicated:

1. (Amended) An apparatus for selectively controlling the direction of a well bore comprising:

a mandrel rotatable about a rotation axis;

a direction controller comprising three parts configured to apply a force to the mandrel having a component perpendicular to the rotation axis and having a component parallel to the rotation axis wherein the mandrel freely rotates within the direction controller and wherein said three parts comprise a first sleeve with an eccentric bore, a second sleeve with a concentric bore and a third sleeve extending between the sleeves;

a housing having an eccentric longitudinal bore forming a weighted side and being configured to freely rotate under gravity about the rotation axis wherein the housing contains the direction controller; and

a driver for selectively varying the angle of the force relative to the weighted side of the housing about the rotation axis wherein the driver is configured to move the direction controller independently of the housing.

2. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

3. (Amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the parts are configured to apply a null force to the mandrel~~ An apparatus for selectively controlling the direction of a well bore comprising:

a mandrel rotatable about a rotation axis;

a direction controller comprising three parts configured to apply a force to the mandrel having a component perpendicular to the rotation axis and having a component parallel to the

rotation axis wherein the mandrel freely rotates within the direction controller and wherein said three parts comprise a first sleeve with an eccentric bore, a second sleeve with a concentric bore and a third sleeve extending between the sleeves;

a housing having an eccentric longitudinal bore forming a weighted side and being configured to freely rotate under gravity about the rotation axis wherein the housing contains the direction controller; and

a driver for selectively varying the angle of the force relative to the weighted side of the housing about the rotation axis wherein the driver is configured to move the direction controller independently of the housing.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled) Now included in claim 1.

6. (Cancelled) Now included in claim 3.

7. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [[5]] 1, wherein the driver is configured to move the sleeves independently of one another.

8. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [[6]] 2, wherein the driver means is configured to move the sleeves independently of one another.

9. (Cancel – all rights retained)

10. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

11. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

12. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

13. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

14. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

15. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

16. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

17. (Cancel – all rights retained)

18. (Cancel – all rights retained)

19. (Cancel – all rights retained)

20. (Cancel – all rights retained)

21. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the driver is configured to change the direction within a tolerance between 5° and 1°.

22. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [[1]] 3, wherein the driver ~~comprises an electric motor~~ is configured to change the direction within a tolerance between 5° and 1°.

23. (Cancel – all rights retained)

24. (Cancel – all rights retained)

25. (Cancel – all rights retained)

26. (Cancel – all rights retained)

27. (Cancel – all rights retained)

28. (Cancel – all rights retained)

29. (Cancel – all rights retained)

30. (Cancel – all rights retained)

31. (Cancel – all rights retained)

32. (Cancel – all rights retained)

33. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

34. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

35. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

36. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

37. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

38. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

39. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

40. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

41. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

42. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

43. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

44. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

45. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

46. (Previously Cancelled – all rights retained)

47. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said driver comprises a drive wheel and a track, said drive wheel being engagable with said track such that movement of said drive wheel causes movement of said track relative to said drive wheel and said drive wheel when stationary prevents movement between said track and drive wheel, the drive wheel and track being located such that movement of the drive wheel effects relative movement between the force and the weighted side of the housing.

48. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein said track is located on a surface of said housing and said drive wheel is mechanically connected to said direction controller.

49. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein ~~the~~ said track is located on an inner surface of said housing.

50. (Cancel – all rights retained)

51. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [[1]] 2, wherein ~~the driver comprises a hydraulic motor~~ said driver comprises a drive wheel and a track, said drive wheel being engagable with said track such that movement of said drive wheel causes movement of said track relative to said drive wheel and said drive wheel when stationary prevents movement between said track and drive wheel, the drive wheel and track being located such that movement of the drive wheel effects relative movement between the force and the weighted side of the housing.

52. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [[47]] 51, wherein said ~~drive wheel comprises a plurality of teeth about its edge, and said track comprises a plurality of teeth which are configured to interlock with the teeth of said drive wheel to effect relative movement therebetween~~ track is located on a surface of said housing and said drive wheel is mechanically connected to said direction controller.

53. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [[47]] 51, wherein ~~the direction of the force is changed by a predetermined angle in response to rotation of said drive wheel through a predetermined rotation angle~~ said track is located on an inner surface of said housing.